

# EXHIBIT D

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SUSAN ROY, on behalf of herself and all others  
similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ESL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

Defendant.

CASE NO. 6:19-cv-06122-FPG-JWF

**[PROPOSED] ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING  
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND CERTIFYING  
RETRY FEE CLASS AND SUFFICIENT FUNDS FEE CLASS**

WHEREAS, Plaintiff in the above-captioned class Action has applied for an order, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, preliminarily approving the Settlement Agreement and Releases entered into between Plaintiff Susan Roy, individually and on behalf of the proposed Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class, and Defendant ESL Federal Credit Union, dated July 15, 2021, and this Court having reviewed the Agreement as submitted to the Court with the Unopposed Renewed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement (“Motion for Preliminary Approval”).

WHEREAS, this Preliminary Approval Order incorporates the Agreement, and its exhibits, and the terms used herein shall have the meaning and/or definitions given to them in the Agreement, as submitted to the Court with the Motion for Preliminary Approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e), upon the agreement of the Parties, and after consideration of the Agreement and its exhibits,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. The Court finds that the Agreement proposed by the Parties is fair, reasonable, and adequate and likely to be approved at a final approval hearing such that giving notice is justified. The representations, agreements, terms, and conditions of the Settlement, as embodied in the Agreement and the exhibits attached thereto, are preliminarily approved pending a final hearing on the Settlement

as provided herein. The Settlement meets the considerations set forth in the amended Rule 23(e), as well as *City of Detroit v. Grinnell Corp.*, 495 F.2d 448, 463 (2d Cir. 1974).

2. The Settlement was negotiated with the assistance of neutral Mediator Simeon H. Baum, Esq., and appears to be the result of extensive, arm's length negotiations between the Parties after Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel had investigated the claims, sufficiently litigated the claims, and became familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of the claims. The Settlement appears not to be collusive, has no obvious defects, and falls within the range of reasonableness.

3. The Court finds that it will likely certify at the final approval stage the Retry Fee Class and the Sufficient Funds Fee Class for purposes of the Settlement only, consisting of:

**Retry Fee Class.** All current and former members of Defendant who were assessed Retry Fees.

**Sufficient Funds Fee Class.** All current and former members of Defendant who were assessed Sufficient Funds Fees.

Excluded from the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class is Defendant, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers and directors; all Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class members who make a timely election to be excluded; and all judges assigned to this litigation and their immediate family members.

4. The Class Period is January 1, 2016 to October 31, 2019 for both the Retry Fee Class and the Sufficient Funds Fee Class.

5. The Court finds that the Retry Fee Class meets the relevant requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) in that: (a) the number of Retry Fee Class members is so numerous that joinder is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Retry Fee Class members; (c) the claims of the Class Representative are typical of the claims of the Retry Fee Class members; (d) the Class Representative is an adequate representative for the Retry Fee Class, and has retained experienced counsel to represent her as Class Counsel; (e) the questions of law and fact common to the Retry Fee Class members predominate over any questions affecting any individual Retry Fee Class member; and (f) a class action is superior to the other available methods for the fair

and efficient adjudication of the controversy. The Court therefore preliminarily certifies the proposed Retry Fee Class.

6. The Court finds that the Sufficient Funds Fee Class meets the relevant requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) in that: (a) the number of Sufficient Funds Fee Class members is so numerous that joinder is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Sufficient Funds Fee Class members; (c) the claims of the Class Representative are typical of the claims of the Sufficient Funds Fee Class members; (d) the Class Representative is an adequate representative for the Sufficient Funds Fee Class, and has retained experienced counsel to represent her as Class Counsel; (e) the questions of law and fact common to the Sufficient Funds Fee Class members predominate over any questions affecting any individual Sufficient Funds Fee Class member; and (f) a class action is superior to the other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy. The Court therefore preliminarily certifies the proposed Sufficient Funds Fee Class.

7. For purposes of the Settlement only, the Court finds and determines that it will likely find at the final approval stage, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 23(a)(4), that Plaintiff Susan Roy will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Retry Fee Class in enforcing their rights in the Action, and therefore appoints her as the Class Representative.

8. For purposes of the Settlement only, the Court finds and determines that it will likely find at the final approval stage, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 23(a)(4), that Plaintiff Susan Roy will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Sufficient Funds Fee Class in enforcing their rights in the Action, and therefore appoints her as the Class Representative.

9. For purposes of the Settlement only, and pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(1), the Court appoints the following as Class Counsel to act on behalf of both the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class and the Class Representative with respect to the Settlement:

Jeff Ostrow, Esq.  
Jonathan M. Streisfeld, Esq.  
KOPELOWITZ OSTROW P.A.  
1 West Las Olas Blvd.

Suite 500  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Sophia G. Gold, Esq.  
KALIEL GOLD PLLC  
1875 Connecticut Ave. NW  
10th Floor  
Washington, DC 20009

Andrea Gold, Esq.  
TYCKO & ZAVAREEI LLP  
1827 L St. NW  
Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20036

10. Angeion Group is appointed as Settlement Administrator and shall administer the Notice Program. The Settlement Administrator shall abide by the terms and conditions of the Agreement that pertain to the Settlement Administrator.

11. Pursuant to the 2018 amendment to Federal Rule Civil Procedure 23(e), the terms of the Agreement (and the Settlement provided for therein) are preliminarily approved and likely to be approved at the Final Approval Hearing because:

- (A) the class representative and class counsel have adequately represented the class;
- (B) the proposal was negotiated at arm's length;
- (C) the relief provided for the class is adequate, taking into account:
  - (i) the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal;
  - (ii) the effectiveness of any proposed method of distributing relief to the class, including the method of processing class-member claims, if required;
  - (iii) the terms of any proposed award of attorney's fees, including timing of payment; and
  - (iv) any agreement required to be identified under Rule 23(e)(3); and
- (D) the proposal treats class members equitably relative to each other.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2).

12. Having reviewed the proposed Notice Program, including the Email Notice, Postcard Notice, and the Long Form Notice submitted by the Parties as Exhibits 1 and 2 to the Agreement, the Court approves, as to form and content, such Notices for the purpose of notifying the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class as to the proposed Settlement, the Final Approval Hearing, and the rights of the members of the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class. Those Notices

contain all of the essential elements necessary to satisfy the requirements of federal law, including the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and federal and state due process provisions, including the class definitions, the identities of the Parties and their counsel, a summary of the terms of the proposed Settlement, information regarding the manner in which objections may be submitted, information regarding opt-out procedures and deadlines, and the date and location of the Final Approval Hearing.

13. The Court directs the Settlement Administrator to cause a copy of the Email Notice or Postcard Notice to be sent to all Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class members in accordance with the Notice Program. The Notice Program (including the Notice re-mailing process) shall be completed before the filing of the Motion for Final Approval.

14. The Email Notice, Postcard Notice, and Long Form Notice shall be updated by Class Counsel and Defendant to include the correct dates and deadlines in the Notice before the Notice Program commences, based upon those dates and deadlines set by the Court herein. The Court finds and determines Email Notice and Postcard Notice pursuant to this Order constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances, constitutes due and sufficient notice of the matters set forth in the notices to all persons entitled to receive such notices, and fully satisfies the requirements of due process, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and all other applicable law and rules.

15. Any person falling within the definition of the Retry Fee Class and/or Sufficient Funds Fee Class may, upon request, be excluded or opt-out. In the event a Retry Fee Class and/or Sufficient Funds Fee Class member wishes to be excluded and not to be bound by this Agreement, that person must sign and mail a notice of intention to opt-out to the Settlement Administrator. The notice must be postmarked on or before the last day of the Opt-Out Period and must include the name of this Action; the Account Holder's name, address, telephone number, and email address; the last four digits of the member number(s) or former member number(s); and a clear request that the individual would like to opt-out or be excluded, by use of those or other words clearly indicating a desire to no longer participate in the Settlement. Any member of the Retry Fee Class or Sufficient Funds Fee Class who timely and properly requests exclusion in compliance with these requirements will thereafter be excluded from the Retry Fee Class and/or Sufficient Funds Fee Class, will not become a Settlement

Class Member, will not have any rights under the Settlement, will not be entitled to receive a Settlement Class Member Payment and/or forgiveness of Uncollected Relevant Fees, and will not be bound by the Agreement or the Final Approval Order. Any members of the Retry Fee Class or Sufficient Funds Fee Class who fail to submit a valid and timely opt-out request shall be bound by all terms of the Agreement and the Final Approval Order, regardless of whether they have requested to be opted-out from the Settlement. If an Account has more than one Account Holder, and if one Account Holder excludes himself or herself from the Retry Fee Class and/or Sufficient Funds Fee Class, then all Account Holders on that account shall be deemed to have opted-out of the Settlement with respect to that Account, and no Account Holder shall be entitled to a payment under the Settlement.

16. Any Settlement Class Member who wishes to object to the Settlement, Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and costs, or a Service Award for the Class Representative, or to appear at the Final Approval Hearing and show cause, if any, why the Settlement should not be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Retry Fee Class and/or the Sufficient Funds Fee Class, or why a final judgment should not be entered thereon, may do so, but must proceed as set forth in this paragraph. Only a Settlement Class Member may file an objection. No Settlement Class Member or other person will be heard on such matters unless they have mailed via U.S. Mail or private courier (e.g., Federal Express) a written objection (together with any briefs, papers, statements, or other materials that the Settlement Class Member or other person wishes the Court to consider) to the Clerk of the Court on or before the last day of the Opt-Out Period, as set forth in the Notices. Any objection must state: (a) the name of the Action; (b) the objector's full name, address and telephone number; (c) all grounds for the objection, (d) the identity of all counsel (if any) representing the objector who prepared the objection and/or will appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (e) a statement confirming whether the objector intends to personally appear and/or testify at the Final Approval Hearing, and (f) the objector's signature (an attorney's signature is not sufficient).

17. Any Settlement Class Member who does not make his or her objection in the manner and by the date set forth in this Order shall be deemed to have waived any objections and shall be forever barred from raising such objections in this or any other action or proceeding, absent further

order of the Court.

18. Prior to the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator (i) shall submit a declaration or affidavit to the Court confirming that the Notice Program was completed and providing the names of each Retry Fee Class member and Sufficient Funds Fee Class member who timely and promptly requested exclusion from the Retry Fee Class and/or Sufficient Funds Fee Class and (ii) provide notice of this Settlement as required under the Class Action Fairness Act (“CAFA”), 28 U.S.C. § 1715.

19. All pretrial proceedings in this Action are stayed and suspended until further order of this Court, except such actions as may be necessary to implement the Agreement and this Preliminary Approval Order.

20. Upon the entry of this Order, the Class Representative and all members of the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class shall be provisionally enjoined and barred from asserting any claims against Defendant and the Released Parties arising out of, relating to, or in connection with the Released Claims prior to the Court’s decision as whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement.

21. This Settlement, and any and all negotiations, statements, documents, and/or proceedings in connection with the Settlement, shall not be construed or deemed to be evidence of an admission or concession by Defendant of any liability or wrongdoing by Defendant or any of its affiliates, agents, representatives, vendors, or any other person or entity acting on its behalf with respect to the conduct alleged in the Action or that the case was properly brought as a class action, and shall not be construed or deemed to be evidence of an admission or concession that any person suffered compensable harm or is entitled to any relief with respect to the conduct alleged in the Action. Defendant may file the Agreement in any action or proceeding that may be brought against it in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim.

22. In the event that (a) this Court does not grant Final Approval of the Settlement as provided in the Agreement; (b) this Court does not enter the Final Approval Order in all material



respects and substantial form as the Final Approval Order submitted by the Parties with the Motion for Final Approval; or (c) the Settlement does not become final for any other reason, the Agreement shall be null and void and any order or judgment entered by this Court in furtherance of the Settlement shall be vacated *nunc pro tunc*. In such a case, the Parties shall proceed in all respects as if the Agreement had not been executed and the Parties shall in no way be prejudiced in proceeding with or defending this Action, the provisional class certification effected herein will be null and void, and Defendant shall have the right to oppose and object, on any and all grounds, to certification of the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class or any other class at any future time.

23. For the benefit of the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class and to protect this Court's jurisdiction, this Court retains continuing jurisdiction over the Settlement proceedings to ensure the effectuation thereof in accordance with the Settlement preliminarily approved herein and the related orders of this Court.

24. Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel are hereby authorized to use all reasonable procedures in connection with approval and administration of the Settlement that are not materially inconsistent with this Order or the Agreement, including making, without the Court's further approval, minor form or content changes to the Notices they jointly agree are reasonable or necessary.

25. A Final Approval Hearing will be held in the Courtroom of The Honorable Frank P. Geraci, Jr., United States District Court for the Western District of New York, 100 State Street, Rochester, New York 14614 on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 at \_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m., to determine: (a) whether the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class; (b) whether the Final Approval Order should be entered in substance materially the same as the Final Approval Order submitted by the Parties with the Motion for Final Approval; (c) whether to approve Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and costs, and for a Service Award for the Class Representative; and (d) any other matters that may properly be brought before the Court in connection with the Settlement. The Final Approval Hearing is subject to continuation or adjournment by the Court without further notice to the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class. The Court may approve the Settlement with such modifications as the Parties may

agree to, if appropriate, without further notice to the Retry Fee Class and Sufficient Funds Fee Class. The Parties must file all moving papers and briefs in support of Final Approval, inclusive of Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and costs, and for a Service Award for the Class Representative, no later than 45 days before the date set forth herein for the Final Approval Hearing.

26. Any Settlement Class Member may enter an appearance in the Action, at their own expense, individually or through counsel of their own choice. If a Settlement Class Member does not enter an appearance, he or she will be represented by Class Counsel.

27. The Court hereby sets the following schedule of events:

Event	Calendar Days Before Final Approval Hearing
<b>Notice Program Complete (including Initial Mailed Notice and the Notice Re-Mailing Process)</b>	_____, 2021 (60 before Final Approval Hearing)
<b>Motion for Final Approval, Application for Attorneys' Fees, Expenses and Costs, and for a Service Award</b>	_____, 2021 (45 before Final Approval Hearing)
<b>Opt-Out Deadline</b>	_____, 2021 (30 before Final Approval Hearing)
<b>Deadline to Submit Objections</b>	_____, 2021 (30 before Final Approval Hearing)
<b>Deadline to Respond to Objections</b>	_____, 2021 (15 before Final Approval Hearing)
<b>Final Approval Hearing</b>	_____, 2021 at ____:____.m.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

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Honorable Frank P. Geraci, Jr.  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE